

Committee Title	Student Voice
Date of Meeting	23 rd October 2023
Item Number and Title/Subject	Motion: Statement on Palestinian Support
Paper Presenter	Raiyan Mehmood, SCEBE
Brief Summary of Issues/Topic	<p>We, as members of the Student Association are deeply concerned about the recent events in Palestine & Gaza involving the Israeli Government. We express our deep solidarity with the Palestinian people who have been the victim of collective punishment.</p> <p>Acknowledging the stance of the Scottish Government, we believe it is our moral responsibility to stand against the tragic loss of <i>all</i> innocent civilian lives, whether Israeli or Palestinian. We must also advocate for the creation of humanitarian corridors.</p> <p>Therefore, we motion for the Student association and university governance bodies to issue a statement strongly condemning the actions of the Israeli Government, as it breaks international law as recognised by humanitarian bodies.</p> <p>We recognise that the direct targeting of civilians should <i>never</i> be excused, extending our deepest sympathies and condolences to everyone affected. Moreover, we must highlight the government's long history of aggressively disproportionate responses and an enactment of illegal apartheid in Palestine. Therefore, these war crimes can never be justified and should not undermine the Palestinian cause for freedom and equality.</p> <p>Furthermore, we are resolute in our stance against <i>any</i> form of discrimination including Islamophobia, Antisemitism, and racism. These have no place within our university, and we commit to maintaining an inclusive environment.</p> <p>Let it be resolved that GCU reaffirms its commitment to promoting peace, justice, and equality for all, whilst calling the upon global community to join us in this pursuit.</p> <p>Proposed Statement: “We recognise that the direct targeting of civilians should <i>never</i> be excused, extending our deepest sympathies and condolences to everyone affected. Moreover, we must highlight the Israeli government's long history of aggressively disproportionate responses and an enactment of illegal apartheid. These war crimes can never be justified and should not undermine the Palestinian cause for freedom and equality. GCU Students’ Association therefore reaffirms its support of the Palestinian state, condemning the attacks of the Israeli government on the people of Gaza and Palestine. GCU Students’ Association condemns the government, not the people.</p>

Recommendation(s)	Information		Discussion		Approval	X
	<p><i>Any member can ask a question by raising their voting card and being recognised by the Chair to speak.</i></p> <p>Student Voice are asked <u>to approve</u> the motion</p>					
Who have you consulted when developing the paper?						
Staff/Student Protocol	Yes		No		N/A	X
	<p>Will any decision approved directly affect the work of staff?</p>					
<p>Should the paper be submitted to any other committee following its consideration/approval at this meeting?</p> <p>If yes, please state the committee an proposed date of submission.</p>	Trustee Board					